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Gudrun E. Huckett, Patent Agent

Applicant: Klaus Fröhlich  
Serial No: 10/709,513  
U.S. Filed: 5/11/2004  
For: Device for Connecting Ends of Bars

OFFICIAL

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the reference(s) cited on the attached form PTO-1449.

This reference has been cited in the office action in the counterpart European patent application. A copy of the listed document is attached.

The reference discloses a connector for connecting reinforcement bars 4 of prefabricated concrete parts to a lifting device or transport device etc. The connector comprises a sleeve 1 with threaded (12) inner bore 10. Threaded radial bores 14 are provided in the sleeve for receiving tightening screws 20, 21 (Fig. 1). A second set of screws 20, 21 can be arranged in radial bores 16 (Fig. 2) that are positioned at a 70° angle

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relative to the bores 14 in the same radial plane, respectively; the bores 14 and 16 are not staggered relative to one another in the longitudinal direction of the sleeve 1. Because they are positioned in the same radial plane, the bores 14 and 16 partially overlap one another as is shown in Fig. 2 so that the screws 20, 21 require a pointed tip in order not to interfere with one another. A bolt 3 having an outer thread is provided for connecting the sleeve 1 to a sleeve 5 that is pressed onto the end of an anchor 50. The device in its operative state is shown in Fig. 6. The screws 20, 21 are provided with constricted areas 25. When the screws 20, 21 are tightened at a preset torque, the heads will shear off at the constriction so that the sleeve 1 can no longer be removed from the bar 4.

It is respectfully requested that any fees required and not enclosed herewith or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 50-1199.

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted July 30, 2004,

Gudrun E. Hockett

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Enclosures:

☒ PTO 1449  
☒ reference(s)  
☐ search report (incl. translation)  
☐ fee

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<b>PTO 1449</b>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Application Number</b>	10/709,513
		<b>Filing Date</b>	5/11/2004
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Klaus Fröhlich
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	
<b>Date submitted: 7/30/04</b>		<b>Examiner Name</b>	
<b>Sheet 1 of 1</b>		<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	A91988

U. S. PATENTS OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Patent or Publication Number	Issue or Publication Date	Patentee or Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	1	295 00 727.3	4/27/1995	Germany				X

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), Title of Article, Title of Item (Book, Journal, etc.), Date, Page(s), Volume or Issue No., Publisher, City and/or Country Where Published

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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